

# UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 366 425 (13) A

(43) Date of A Publication 06.03.2002

(21) Application No 0108069.6  
 (22) Date of Filing 30.03.2001  
 (30) Priority Data  
 (31) 09540828 (32) 31.03.2000 (33) US

(51) INT CL<sup>7</sup>  
 G06F 13/36  
 (52) UK CL (Edition T )  
 G4A AFGDC  
 (56) Documents Cited  
 GB 2360377 A GB 2325541 A  
 WO 93/01553 A1 US 6081860 A  
 US 5813024 A  
 (58) Field of Search  
 UK CL (Edition S ) G4A AFGDC AMC  
 Online databases: WPI, JAPIO, EPODOC, INSPEC

(71) Applicant(s)  
**EMC Corporation**  
 (Incorporated in USA - Massachusetts)  
 35 Parkwood Drive, Hopkinton, MA 01748,  
 United States of America  
 (72) Inventor(s)  
 Yuval Ofek  
 David L Black  
 Stephen D Macarthur  
 Richard Wheeler  
 Robert Thibault  
 (74) Agent and/or Address for Service  
 Reddie & Grose  
 18 Theobalds Road, LONDON, WC1X 8PL,  
 United Kingdom

(54) Abstract Title  
**Data transfer via a cache under control of an independent message network**

(57) A system interface includes a plurality of first directors 180, a plurality of second directors 200, a data transfer section 240 and a message network 260. The data transfer section includes a cache memory 220 which is coupled to the directors 180, 200. The messaging network 260 operates independently of the data transfer section and is also coupled to the first and second directors 180, 200. Data transfer between the first directors and the second directors is controlled in response to messages passing between the first directors and the second directors through the messaging network 260 and the data passes through the cache memory 220 in the data transfer section.

The first and second directors may be coupled respectively to computer/server 120 and a bank of disc drives 140.

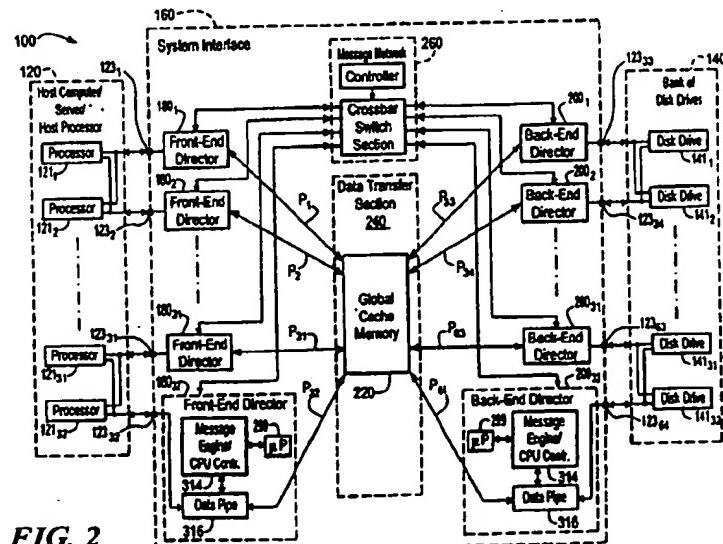


FIG. 2